WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A system for managing a personal view for a user comprising:

a proxy, which tracks web pages that have been accessed by the user and extracts a topic page from the web pages;

a personal view constructor, which builds the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page extracted by the proxy; and

a personal view maintainer, which adjusts the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories.

2.   The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view constructor builds the personal view by mapping the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories and updating a corresponding category in the hierarchy.

3.   The system of claim 2 wherein the selected category has a category vector that is most similar to a keyword vector of the topic page.

4.   The system of claim 2 wherein the corresponding category is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories if the selected category is not in the hierarchy.

5.   The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view maintainer splits off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold.

6.   The system of claim 5 wherein the personal view maintainer chooses the child category that maximizes a gain value.

7.   The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view maintainer periodically reduces the energy value of each of the categories.

8.   The system of claim 7 wherein the personal view maintainer removes a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold.

9.   The system of claim 7 wherein the personal view maintainer merges information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy.

10.   The system of claim 1 further comprising a personal view display to display the hierarchy of categories.

11.   A method for managing a personal view for a user comprising:
tracking web pages that have been accessed by the user;
extracting a topic page from the web pages;
building the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page; and
adjusting the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories.

12.   The method of claim 11 wherein building the personal view further comprises:
mapping the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories; and
updating a corresponding category in the hierarchy.

13.   The method of claim 12 wherein the selected category has a category vector most similar to a keyword vector of the topic page.

14.   The method of claim 12 further comprising choosing the corresponding category that is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories.

15.   The method of claim 11 further comprising splitting off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold.

16.   The method of claim 15 further comprising choosing the child category that maximizes a gain value.

17.   The method of claim 11 further comprising periodically reducing the energy value of each of the categories.

18.   The method of claim 17 further comprising removing a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold.

19.   The method of claim 17 further comprising merging information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy.

20.   The method of claim 11 further comprising alerting the user that new information has been added to the categories.

21.   A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

    track web pages that have been accessed by the user;

    extract a topic page from the web pages;

    build a personal view for a user as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page; and

    adjust the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories.

22.   The computer program product of claim 21 wherein building a personal view further comprises instructions for causing the computer to:

    map the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories; and

    update a corresponding category in the hierarchy.

23.   The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to split off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold.

24.   The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to merge information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy.